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ters to the state courts. Moreover, appeals in practically all matters, state and federal, lie from the supreme court of each state to the federal High Court. How this fusion of judicial machinery will work out it is too soon to predict. Up to now there has been confusion due to the right of appeal both to the High Court and to the Privy Council. Thus upon the important question of the taxation by a state of the salary of a federal official, the Privy Council in *Webb v. Outram* (1907) held that the federal officers were liable to the state income tax, while the High Court had, on the authority of *McCulloch v. Maryland*, decided to the contrary.

It is to be noted that young as the Australian constitution is, there are those who insist upon a "progressive" interpretation. Quoting *Prigg v. Pennsylvania* (16 Pet. 610) the High Court in the *Union Label case* (1908) held to the doctrine that the "terms employed in the Constitution are to be interpreted according to the meaning which they bore at the time the Constitution was adopted. This principle is now assumed as an ordinary rule of construction." These examples, taken almost at random, will serve to show, it is believed, that the federal constitutional law of Australia has so many points of similarity and of contrast with our own that no student can afford to neglect it. Mr. Moore's excellent book will be found to be a trustworthy introduction to the subject.

J. S. R.

HANDBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW. By George Grafton Wilson. St. Paul: West Publishing Company, 1910, pp. xxi, 623.

The text-book on International Law by Professor Wilson in collaboration with Mr. G. F. Tucker has been deservedly popular, five editions of it having appeared. Professor Wilson now offers his Handbook of International Law as one of the Hornbook series. The former text-book was characterized by excellent arrangement and clarity of expression. Its fault was a lack of incidental discussion and of expository material: in short it suffered from too much compression. The present volume in many ways is an expansion of the text-book to meet the requirements of the Hornbook series. It follows an analogous analytical scheme and has a similar series of appendices. The expository matter, however, is so much larger in amount that the book may rightly be regarded as a new and independent work.

The author, perhaps owing to the limitations of the series, has had to be somewhat dogmatic; the dogmatism appears in the black letter-texts, and some might object that International Law has suffered in the past from too much dogmatism. Again the series seems to require a statement of "the law as it is," with but incidental description of its becoming. The author has attempted, with some success, to overcome this by a generous use of quotations from treaties and state-papers, both in the text and in the footnotes. Many of these are of recent date and illuminating. To certain modern topics scant attention is paid, as for instance, to that of leased territory, of the present aspects of the doctrine of the equality of states, and of jurisdiction over aliens. Extradition is dismissed with a two-page discussion, while the Declaration of London is printed in full in the appendix and large

parts of it are reproduced in the body of the work with no hint, apparently, as to its real position in law. Balance and proportion in such a work are, however, largely a matter of individual opinion. The book may be recommended as a careful and usually judicious elementary text.

J. S. R.

THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW ANNOTATED. With Reference to the English Bills of Exchange Act and with the Cases under the Negotiable Instruments Law and the Bills of Exchange Act and Comments thereon. By Joseph Doddridge Brannan, Bussey Professor of Law in Harvard University, together with Comments and Criticisms on the Negotiable Instruments Law by James Barr Ames (Dean of the Harvard Law School), Judge Lyman D. Brewster (Formerly President of the State Boards of Commissioners for Promoting Uniformity of Legislation), and Charles L. McKeehan, Esq., (Formerly Lecturer on the Law of Bills and Notes in the University of Pennsylvania). Second Edition. Revised—Re-arranged—Enlarged. Cincinnati: The W. H. Anderson Company, 1911, pp. xxxiv, 330.

This work furnishes in small compass a great deal of valuable information about The Negotiable Instruments Law, information almost indispensable to the ordinary practitioner, who is without access to large libraries, and who may have occasion to know how the various sections of the law have been construed.

The author has used as the standard of comparison and comment The Negotiable Instruments Law in the form recommended by the National Conference of State Boards of Commissioners.

He has indicated under each section whatever change, amendment or addition each of the thirty-eight states and territories, which have adopted The Negotiable Instruments Law, has made. By this plan of treatment the reader is enabled to ascertain at small expense of time the exact provisions of The Negotiable Instruments Law as enacted in each state and territory. The author has also drawn the contrast between The Negotiable Instruments Law and the English Bills of Exchange Act on which it was based in substance and in form. He has given, in connection with each section, the construction of the statute and of the corresponding provision of the Bills of Exchange Act. He has made a part of his work the comments and criticisms upon the law made by Dean Ames, and the defence of the law by Judge Brewster, one of the committee who had the preparation of the law in charge, in the somewhat famous controversy known to the profession as the "Ames-Brewster Controversy."

He has also made a part of his work the review of that controversy by Charles L. McKeehan, sometime Lecturer on the Law of Bills and Notes in the University of Pennsylvania. He also sets out the provisions of the Bills of Exchange Act which were not followed or adopted by The Negotiable Instruments Law. And so it is that the practitioner or student can determine from this book, within a comparatively short time, the exact pro-